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LONDON PRIDE SHOWS ITS TRUE COLOURS

PAGES 6-9

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GAMES ON!

Clockwise, from left: Canadian cyclist Ryder Hesjedal, hurdler Phylicia George, diver Alexandre Despatie, diver Emilie Heymans, shot putter Dylan Armstrong, soccer player Christine Sinclair, heptathlete Jessica Zelinka and swimmer Brent Hayden. For Olympic Games coverage, see pages 23-25. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAVID VAN DYKE; EMILIE HEYMANS PHOTO: THE CANADIAN PRESS; ALL OTHER PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Olympics as they happen

Visit metronews.ca/olympics for our unique perspective on the London 2012 Games, including galleries, the latest videos and results as they happen

Comedy invasion

Even three of Hollywood's funniest guys can't save The Watch from its clunker of a script PAGE 15

Satellite snaps earth as art

Sea swirling around island looks like van Gogh's Starry Night from outer space PAGE 14

London tasty to the core

Downtown restaurants to offer fixed-price menus as part of Corelicious PAGE 4

Romance fades in Twilight zone

Robert Pattison moves out after Kristen Stewart's weepy apology PAGE 19

NEWS 1

Older health cards may not do you any good

Transition. 75 per cent of Ontario residents have been switched to the new photo health card since it was introduced in 1995

Health Minister Deb Matthews
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

The transition from Ontario's old health cards to new ones with photographs could leave some people without coverage in an emergency, especially if they ignored notices to update their card.

There are still more than 3.5-million Ontario residents with the old red-and-white health cards that have no expiry date and no picture.

One of them was CTV health reporter Avis Favaro, who discovered her Ontario Health Insurance Plan card had been cancelled when she went to a Hunstville walk-in clinic after suffering a bad reaction to an insect bite while on vacation.

Favaro was told she would have to pay $60 cash to see a doctor, and was directed to a nearby cash machine because the clinic would not accept credit or debit cards.

Health Minister Deb Matthews said there have been no changes to the program to move people over to the new cards, and she wants people to know they can still use their old health cards.

"I think a lot of people are seeing the story and are worried that their health care somehow is in jeopardy if they have a red-and-white card," Matthews said in an interview.

"Nothing could be further from the truth."

NDP health critic France Gelinas supports the transition to more secure OHIP cards, but said "health care is a right" and no one should ever be denied coverage.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Replacements

- About 3,000 notices are mailed out each month to people asking them to register for a new photo health card.
- The province replaces about 225,000 of the old red-and-white health cards with the new photo cards every year.
- The government said about 150,000 people will apply for an updated health card each year without being asked to.

Bike tour. MS ride could be biggest in Canada

The 2012 MS Bike Tour's local loop has its sights set on claiming the country's top spot.

The annual ride, held Saturday and Sunday, may draw more participants than any other section in Canada.

About two weeks from the event, organizers expect almost 2,000 cyclists to make the 150-kilometre trek from Grand Bend to London and back.

There are a total of 22 rides in Canada, with the local one currently battling the Tour Leduc to Camrose, Alta., for nationwide bragging rights.

"The MS Bike Tour is one of our most significant fundraising initiatives and we are so grateful to everyone who cycles rain or shine in support of those living with MS," said Yves Savoie, president and CEO of MS Society of Canada.

This year, the MS Bike Tour is expected to raise $3 million in Ontario alone.

JOHN MATISZ/METRO

By the numbers

$3M

This year, the MS Bike Tour is expected to raise $3 million in Ontario alone.

On the web

Supporting our local Pride

Metro London's Urban Voices columnist Brian Gibson offers his take on why the Pride London Festival is important for all of us. Read his thoughts at metronews.ca/voices.

Bush comeback rocks the park

Bush lead singer Gavin Rossdale, right, performs during Thursday's Rock the Park. The band was one of four to take the stage during the music festival's opening day in Harris Park. Shows continue through Saturday with music starting at 4:30 p.m. each day. Check rockthepark.ca for details. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Meet the politicos

MPP holds public office opening

MPP Teresa Armstrong (London-Fanshawe) will be joined by provincial NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, and MP Irene Mathyssen (London-Fanshawe) on Sunday to officially open her new office. The political leaders will be on hand from 5 to 7 p.m. at 155 Clarke Rd. The public is welcome to attend. METRO

Woodstock chosen

Sysco bypasses London for plant

London officials are expressing disappointment after learning Sysco will be building a new distribution plant down Hwy. 401 in Woodstock. The facility will create anywhere from 250 to 350 jobs, according to a Sysco official.

Peter White, CEO of the London and Economic Development Corp., said they put forth an aggressive bid but ultimately Sysco favoured the Woodstock location over London's site at Innovation Park. The plant should be ready to open by November 2013.

AM980/AM980.CA

Animal Freedom Day

Vegan group marks global observance

Vegan Activists of London will mark Animal Freedom Day with an event in Victoria Park from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday.

The event aims to raise awareness about a variety of issues, including famine and animal welfare.

People are challenged to adopt a vegan lifestyle for the weekend observance.

Visit animalfreedomday.com for more details.

METRO

Award. Libro branch manager recognized

Brian Aalbers, manager of Libro Financial Group's London East branch, was recently awarded the Young Credit Union People (WYCUP) scholarship by the World Council of Credit Unions at its annual conference in Gdansk, Poland.

The WYCUP scholarships are awarded annually to five people under the age of 35 who have made a significant impact within their credit union, and are believed to have the greatest potential to contribute to the international credit-union system.

Aalbers was one of 20 nominees from around the world selected to attend the WYCUP networking session at the world conference.

The scholarship will cover attendance to the 2013 World Credit Union Conference in Ottawa, and will provide Aalbers with an opportunity to organize the 2013 WYCUP networking session. METRO

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FC playoffs. Blues now in final four as team continues to thrive

Martin Painter METRO FILE

Before the 2012 season, the FC London Blues were unable to hang their hats on much, having never won a playoff game.

Now, after a rise to prominence in the playoffs, London is one of four teams left in a 73-team league that stretches from California to Ottawa.

"I don't know if I'd call it shock. I'd say it's more of an emotional high," Martin Painter, Blues head coach, said after the under-23 team clinched a berth in the North American final four.

The local USL Premier Development League franchise upset a second formidable opponent in as many days last Sunday, downing the best squad in the PDL, the Michigan Bucks, 2-1 on the road. London pulled out a 1-0 victory over the Thunder Bay Chill the day prior in order to advance to the Central Conference final versus Michigan.

Considering the Blues posted a 7-5-4 record in the regular season, the PDL itself is apparently taken aback by their success, stating in a news release that they are the "biggest surprise" of the playoffs.

"The fact that we're two wins from a championship says a lot," Painter added. "It's a tough league to win, so it's a great accomplishment to make the final four."

Painter says his squad cannot "rest on their laurels" and will need to defend to the standard they set over this past weekend, allowing just a single goal in two contests.

The Seattle Sounders FC, champions of both the Northwest Division and Western Conference, will travel to the Forest City on Saturday to battle the Blues in the PDL semifinal.

JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Details

- **What.** PDL semifinal (FC London vs. Seattle Sounders FC)
- **When.** Saturday (7:30 p.m.)
- **Where.** Cove Road Field (1 Cove Rd.)
- **How.** Tickets (available on FCLondon.ca)

Baseball. Majors release playoff schedule

Starting Friday, the 21-15 London Majors are scheduled to duel the Kitchener Panthers in a best-of-seven opening-round Intercounty Baseball League series.

Game 1 of the post-season faceoff takes place at Labatt Memorial Park, with first pitch at 7:30 p.m. After Game 2 in Kitchener on Sunday night, the series returns to London on Tuesday for another 7:30 p.m. start before heading back to the Panthers' park on Thursday.

If necessary, Games 5, 6 and 7 will take place on Friday, Aug. 3, Sunday, Aug. 5 and Tuesday, Aug. 7, respectively.

Kitchener, which had a 17-19 regular-season record, finished seventh in the nine-team loop.

METRO

Serving up something fresh in the core

Inaugural food fest.
Downtown business owners to showcase what London's 'heart' has to offer

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Eddy Phimphrachanh, co-owner of Thaifoon (120 Dundas St.), is shown in the lobby of his restaurant. Phimphrachanh is heading up the city's new Corelicious food festival. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Downtown restaurants are trying to put their stamp on the food festival scene.

Corelicious will make its debut Aug. 9 to Aug. 19, featuring fixed-price, three-course dinner menus from 30 restaurants in the core and along Richmond Row.

Prices will range from $25 to $35. Some restaurants are also planning special two-course menus for lunch with prices fixed at $15 or $20.

Eddy Phimphrachanh, co-owner of Thaifoon (120 Dundas St.), is leading the effort for local restaurateurs.

The idea sprung from a conversation earlier this summer about ways to draw positive attention to and create synergy in the city's core.

"We want to draw more people from the suburbs (to) downtown," Phimphrachanh said. "There are a lot of hidden gems people don't know about."

The festival aims to build on the success of similar events, like Londonlicious, started about three years ago by Barrie restaurant owner Randy Feltis.

But, Phimphrachanh said, the fee restaurants paid to get involved in Corelicious is a bit cheaper, making it more appealing to smaller establishments. In the end, that means more variety — and local flare — for diners.

Phimphrachanh hopes the festival is more than just a one-time thing.

With the inaugural event still a couple of weeks away, he's already setting his sites on a possible encore this fall.

"(Restaurant) owners were positive right from the beginning," he said.

Core connection

- Organizers hope to connect with Londoners through social media, offering Facebook contests and more. Details at corelicious.ca.

No value in Rippers merch: Store owner

The world of sports collectibles is filled with nostalgia-driven novelty items with steep price tags.

Hockey jerseys from the Original Six days, baseball cards from the early 1900s, autographed basketballs from the infamous Dream Team — they all demand prime cash.

But what about memorabilia from a largely contentious, now-defunct minor-league baseball squad? Does the memorabilia hold any value?

In a word, no, says Fresher Sports Cards Shop owner Dave LaCroix.

"They're already gone and forgotten," he said of the London Rippers on Thursday, a day after the Frontier League club threw in the towel following a laundry list of financial fumbles.

LaCroix's logic stems from the fact that the team leaves behind zero legacies. A 60-game existence will do that to anyone, he adds, even if the name and logo have become notorious.

Gone and already forgotten? A Rippers baseball cap sits in a sea of hockey cards inside Fresher Sports Cards Shop (639 Southdale Rd. E.). JOHN MATISZ/METRO

"You look at the London Tigers — who had a few players go to MLB — and you don't see a demand at all," LaCroix said, talking about the AA-affiliate to the Detroit Tigers who played five seasons out of Labatt Memorial Park. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

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Turning personal strife into Pride

Teen. Rainbow Leadership Award honoree driven to succeed

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Trenton MacDuff, 18, of London, outside the meeting place of Metropolitan Community Church (138 Wellington St.). MacDuff is receiving the Rainbow Leadership Award for Youth during this year's Pride London Festival. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

When Trenton MacDuff penned a letter to the Globe and Mail last summer, he hardly imagined it would be a turning point in his life.

Months after it was published, the letter turned out to be just that — sparking a fight between MacDuff and his mom that saw the 18-year-old kicked out of his house.

"It was Dec. 18 and, somehow, it just came up in conversation," MacDuff said about the letter, which criticized Toronto Mayor Rob Ford for not participating in the city's Pride parade.

"That was the first (my mom) knew about it."

MacDuff wasn't in the closet by any means.

Since starting high school, he had openly identified himself as bisexual to anyone who asked. He officially came out to his mom in August 2011, and followed that up with a Facebook status message that read: "Just came out to my mother. She still loves me. Cool."

But, the mother-son relationship was tense. It had been for a long time, and the letter to the editor simply pushed things over the edge, MacDuff said.

"(My mom) doesn't understand why there needs to be a Pride parade," he said. "She'll say, 'You don't see straight people having parades.'"

"She sees it as just a big party. But, it's so much more. It's a haven."

Instead of backing down, leaving home early has made MacDuff more driven than ever to succeed.

As the drama was unfolding in his personal life, MacDuff, student council president at the time, turned to starting a gay-straight alliance at his high school — London South Collegiate Institute — and applied for the Rainbow Leadership Award for Youth, handed out annually during the Pride London Festival.

He was successful this spring in both ventures, earning the award and seeing his school begin the transition from being indifferent about diversity to promoting it.

"I am very adamant, very passionate about making these portions of my life that I was upset about work in a positive way," MacDuff said.

The Rainbow Award, he added, makes a big statement about London's LGBTQ2 community.

"To me, it truly means that the community is here to support me."

More on MacDuff & the award

- Trenton MacDuff, 18, a recent graduate of London South Collegiate Institute will receive the Rainbow Leadership Award for Youth during Pride London's Trail Blazers event on Saturday at the Hilton.
- MacDuff will attend Western in the fall where he plans to study child psychology and political science.
- The Rainbow award was created to honor a local high school student for developing tolerance and acceptance. It was handed out for the first time in 2011.

History. First London Pride didn't even have signage

Festival

- This year's festival runs to Sunday, culminating in the parade on Sunday.

At last Sunday's annual Pride picnic, there was music playing, flags flying proudly, and over a hundred people gathered with brightly coloured lawn chairs and beach umbrellas — but it wasn't always like that.

"The first picnics were very low key — people were still wary about their safety," said Clarence Crossman, former pastor at Metropolitan Community Church, which has hosted the event since it began in 1981.

London has changed a lot since then — for the better, MCC officials say.

"There's much more visibility, much more acceptance," Crossman said. "We've come such a long way," added Terry Hart, the church's treasurer.

The early '80s were a much less accepting time for homosexuals in Canada. On Feb. 5, 1981, Toronto police famously raided the city's bath houses, arresting 300 gay men in the largest mass arrest in Canadian history at the time. But today, many credit the arrests with bringing the Canadian gay rights movement to life.

The effect on London was no different.

"In 1981, the MCC had the first pride picnic — there was no signage," said Martin Withenshaw, president of Pride London. "And now, here we are on Wellington Street, with music blaring and flags waving."

London Pride had one of its first big milestones in 1989, when the annual picnic was moved to the Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO) building, becoming a barbecue and attracting a larger crowd.

After that, the picnic evolved from a one-day event to a weekend, and now includes a full week of celebration.

In 1995, the community took a blow when the mayor at the time, Dianne Haskett, along with city council, refused to issue a Gay Pride Proclamation. But from that snub came another tradition: The parade.

"The first parade was a protest march past her home," Crossman said. "We sprinkled her front hedge with fairy dust."

This year, the Pride London Festival will come to Victoria Park for the first time, cementing the event's status as an integral part of the London community.

"It's a very affirming community experience," Crossman said of Pride. "It's a gift to the larger community — it's a model for how everyone can celebrate life."

JULIAN UZIELLI/FOR METRO

Twitter

We asked Londoners what is the best/worst thing about being LGBT2Q in London? Here's what you said:

@Evolving
As a student, one of the best is access to resources such as the Pride Library at #WesternU Its a safe and quiet space.

@donnieclaudino
Queer in #Ldnont — Best- small community, great friendships. Worst - no place for 30+ to meet, need grown-up bar/lounge.

@shawnwlewis
Worst is LGBT community is pretty small, seems like its often all the same faces.

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When the second issue of DC Comics' Earth 2 issue came out on June 5, 2012, so did one of the comic legend's oldest superheroes – the Green Lantern. As scandalous as it might have been for the original Lantern to be gay in 1940, the 2012 version caused barely a ripple. But is it really easier coming out as gay or lesbian now than in decades past? Here are four real-life accounts from different times and places.

KATHY ULLYOTT
Metro World News

Out: About

HANDOUT

Andrew Chase

Chef and food writer, Toronto, age 57

Coming-out age: Just before my 18th birthday.

Coming-out story: I was a freshman at university and adjusting to being away from home and admitting to myself that I was gay. I came out first to a friend in my dormitory whom I suspected was also gay (I was right). It was strange, natural, easy, difficult, uncomfortable and liberating.

Any negative repercussions? I had extreme difficulties with my family when I finally came out to them 10 years later, but that mellowed to complete acceptance after about a year.

Differences between coming out now versus then: I think coming out to oneself is probably as hard it was in my time, but society in general is obviously much more accepting today.

What I would tell a young person considering coming out as gay or lesbian today: Do it when you feel comfortable. It can be a gradual process. Realize certain people might never understand, but that is their problem, not yours.

Caleb

Visual effects artist, Vancouver, age 25

Coming-out age: 20

Coming-out story:
I told everyone via Facebook. My parents weren't on Facebook, though, so I had to tell them in person; that was a bit more difficult.

Any negative repercussions?
No, not really; everyone was totally cool. My mom was fine; I don't think she was that surprised.

What I would tell a young person considering coming out as gay or lesbian today: Don't stress out about it too much – tell whom you want to, people you are close to. It can be difficult to tell your parents – but there's a really good chance that they know more than you think they know.

Julia Gulliver

Preparatory chef, dishwasher and student, St. John's, age 19

Coming-out age: 15

Coming-out story: I was in Grade 10, and my best friend knew I had a crush on someone. She tried to guess who it was, guessing every boy we know (nope!). Finally she said, "Is it a girl?" I said, "Yes!" Then I was like a runaway train, telling everybody.

Any negative repercussions? Not really. It took my family a month or two to warm up to the fact. My mom cried. But for her it was less about my being lesbian and more about life being maybe a more difficult road for me.

What I would tell a young person considering coming out as gay or lesbian today: Make a list of things that might happen. If you're not sure how important people (to you) might react, test the waters first by saying, 'Here's this interesting story I read ...' Proceed with caution if you don't like the reaction.

Bradley Borg

Events planner, Toronto, age 52

Coming-out age:
17, when I put words to it.

Coming-out story:
I'd kind of always been out. But when I was in high school I fell madly in love with someone so I found myself putting words around it, saying 'I'm gay.'

Any negative repercussions?
Well, I had a boss once who fell in love with me; when I told her I was gay she fired me. In 1981 when my mom was dying of pancreatic cancer, she was losing her hair from the chemo and asked me to give her a punk haircut. As I was doing it, she said, 'Don't ever tell your father (that you're gay).' It wasn't that he didn't know; he just didn't want to hear it.

What I would tell a young person considering coming out as gay or lesbian today: Just be who you are, be yourself, love who you love, be proud of who you are. I don't think there's any need to make a big pronouncement to the world. Straight people don't walk into a boardroom and say, 'Hey, everybody, I'm straight!' Why should you?

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‘No longer off the beaten track’

Location, location location. Victoria Park seen as prime spot for festival that’s called parking lots home in recent years

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Mayor Joe Fontana gets ready for the 2011 London Pride Festival parade. Support from Fontana and other city leaders has meant a lot in recent years, festival organizers said. COURTESY

Outer and prouder than ever before.

That just about sums up the way organizers of the Pride London Festival see this year’s move to Victoria Park.

“It actually moves up to the same level as all the other festivals,” president Martin Withenshaw said. “We’re no longer off the beaten track.”

The festival has called various spots home in recent years. Pride spent several years at the Western Fair District, tapped the John Labatt Centre parking lot briefly and, last year, took over a lot at King and Clarence streets.

Moving to the centre of town is really the equivalent of hitting prime time, and, some said, offers more opportunities to spread the Pride message.

“It’s not different. It doesn’t need to be kept in a confined pace. It needs to be out in the open, and we need to have everyone attend,” said Andrew Rosser, the festival’s vice-president. “I think it makes it easier for people to come and see what it’s all about since it’s in such an open space.”

Ask organizers why they’ve never tackled Victoria Park before, and you’ll get a variety of answers, including the cost of rent and the overlap between Pride and other festivals.

But, most agree that support from the city played a big role in making the leap.

Mayor Joe Fontana’s participation in Pride, and strong support from other leaders, like police Chief Brad Duncan, has meant a lot, said Rev. Paul Whiting, pastor at Metropolitan Community Church.

“Joe, as mayor, has brought a totally different perspective on inclusion. He has to be applauded, and he and the police chief have really stuck their necks out,” Whiting said. “That kind of support enables me and other (LGBTQ2) community leaders to do what we do.”

Follow Angela Mullins on Twitter @MetroAngela

Times

Pride London Festival hours at Victoria Park:

- **Saturday.** 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- **Sunday.** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Online.** For a full schedule of events, visit pridelondon.ca.

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London Pride Trail Blazers

Organizers of this year's London Pride Festival have planned a Saturday evening ceremony to honour people/organizations with local ties that have made a difference in the gay community.

Called Trail Blazers, the gala from 7 to 9 p.m. at Hilton London aims to celebrate how far the community has come and note that more work remains to be done. Tickets are $50, visit pridelondon.ca for details.

Here are some of the people who have been invited.

Jonathon Bancroft-Snell

What he did: Organized the first AIDS Walk in 1989, one of the first in Canada; raised over $100K for the Regional HIV/Aids Hospice, the John Gordon Home in 1990; started Rainbow Youth Bursary Fund in '96.

Sue Barnes

What she did: Former MP for London West; lobbied for and voted for 1996 legislation that added "sexual orientation" to the Canadian Human Rights Act.

Marion Boyd

What she did: Presented bill to get same sex benefits for civil servants to legislature in 1994 when she was the Attorney General of Ontario.

Jim Coulbeck

What he did: One of the signatories on the letters of incorporation for Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO) in 1974.

Eugene Dustin

What he did: Signatory on letters of incorporation for Pride London in 2003; created Mr. and Miss Pride London in 2004; festival president from 2006-10.

Richard Hudler

What he did: President of Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO) from 1981 to 1995; co-founder of AIDS Committee of London in 1985.

Metropolitan Community Church

Significance: Formed in 1980 after a group of people from the Homophile Association of London began meeting in 1979; organized first Pride picnic in 1981; 2012 Pride parade grand marshal

James Miller

What he did: Founded Pride Library at Western University in 1997; Pride parade grand marshal in 2011.

Ben Benedict

What he did: Co-founder of Pride London Events and Pride London Festival, 2002-05; curator of Pride London art exhibit since 2002; received funding from London Heritage Council to start writing the LGBT2Q history in 2011

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Pride
LONDON FESTIVAL

EVENTS: JULY 27, 28, & 29

OUTDOOR FESTIVAL IN VICTORIA PARK
Friday 6:00PM - 11:00PM
Saturday 11:00AM - 11:00PM
Sunday 11:00AM - 6:00PM

JULY 27
2012 MR & MISS PRIDE LONDON FESTIVAL SHOW
Metro Mainstage, Victoria Park
9:00 PM to 11:00 PM

JULY 28
TRAIL BLAZERS
Hilton London, 300 King St.,
7:00PM - 9:00 PM
$50 per ticket (incl. Dance cover)

JULY 28
PRIDE DANCE
Hilton London, 300 King St.,
9:00PM - 1:00 AM
$10 cover

JULY 29
ALL FAITHS SPIRITUAL SERVICE
Queens Park,
(Behind WFD Farmer's Market)
11:00AM

JULY 29
PRIDE PARADE
Western Fair Parking Lot, (At King & Ontario St.)
The Parade will travel north on Ontario St. to Queens Ave; West on Queens Ave to Wellington St.; North on Wellington St to Wolfe St. ending at Victoria Park.
12:30 PM

JULY 29
PRIDE CLOSING SPEECHES
Metro Mainstage, Victoria Park
2:00 PM to 3:30 PM

JULY 29
PRIDE WIND DOWN SHOW
Metro Mainstage, Victoria Park
4:30 PM to 6:00 PM

Watch for the 2012 Pride Guide or visit www.pridelondon.ca for more information on this year's festival!

Bonnie Kate Pourciau, 18, a victim of the Aurora, Colo., theatre shooting, speaks from her hospital bed Wednesday, alongside her mother, Kathleen, and father, Trace. ANDY CROSS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shooting victims with no insurance face big bills

Colorado. An unknown number of the injured still face a long recovery and the associated costs

Some of the victims fighting for their lives after being wounded in last week's Colorado theatre rampage may face enormous medical bills without the benefit of health insurance.

The U.S. doesn't have universal health coverage, though hospitals are required by federal law to stabilize patients during emergencies without regard to their ability to pay. The Obama administration's health-care overhaul would cover millions more uninsured, but Republicans strongly object to its cost.

Members of the public have contributed nearly $2 million to help victims, including the Warner Bros. studio that released the Batman movie that was showing when the gunman opened fire. But it's not clear how much of that money will cover medical expenses.

One victim's family is already raising money online. And three of the five hospitals treating victims said Wednesday they will limit or completely wipe out medical bills.

An unknown number of the victims, however, still face a long recovery and the associated medical costs without health insurance.

Nearly one in three Coloradans, or about 1.5 million, either have no health insurance or have coverage that is inadequate, according to a 2011 report by the Colorado Trust, a health-care advocacy group.

The highest uninsured rate is among adults between 18 and 34. Many victims are in that age group.

Among the uninsured victims is a 23-year-old aspiring comic, Caleb Medley, who is in critical condition with a head wound. His wife, Katie, gave birth to their first child on Tuesday.

His family and friends said they have set a goal of raising $500,000 US to cover his hospital bills and other expenses and were more than halfway there Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Unsettling connection

Warner Bros. has moved the release of Gangster Squad to January after the film's climactic cinema shootout scene drew comparisons to the Aurora, Colo., shooting. Gangster Squad chronicles a bloody 1940s battle between Los Angeles police and mobsters. It culminates in a scene where gangsters shoot automatic weapons into a crowded movie theatre from behind the screen.

Penn State scandal

University sued over lax conduct

A man who claims to be the boy abused in a Penn State shower by Jerry Sandusky intends to sue the university for its "egregious and reckless conduct," his lawyers said Thursday, as the child-sex-abuse scandal continued to shake one of the most lucrative and legendary sports programs in the U.S.

The lawyers said in a statement they have gathered "overwhelming evidence" on details of the abuse, and they released recordings of two voice mails they say were from Sandusky expressing his love. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal. Jun Lin laid to rest in Canada — a land he loved

The mother of Jun Lin, the Chinese university student whose gruesome murder captured world attention, says her son will rest in peace in the land he loved.

Lin's dismembered torso was found May 29 stuffed in a suitcase dumped outside a Montreal apartment building.

His father sobbed before his son's funeral on Thursday as he clutched the urn containing his son's remains. The 30-minute ceremony was marked by music and prayer and was attended by about 30 people.

In a statement distributed to media, Lin's mother said in her eulogy it is "very difficult" to say goodbye to her son.

"But I have been waiting for this day to come, because my son can finally rest in peace in the land that he loves," said Zhigui Du, who was not present at the funeral because of the emotion involved.

Daran Lin breaks down on the urn bearing the remains of his son during funeral services Thursday. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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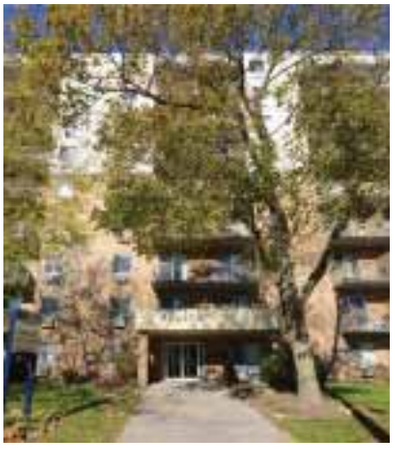

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Most remaining Zellers stores to close their doors

Hudson's Bay Co.
Parent company says running the last 64 locations is no longer viable

Zellers stores may soon join now-defunct Canadian chains as a relic of the retail past after its parent company said Thursday it will close most of the 64 remaining locations, affecting up to 6,400 jobs.

Hudson's Bay Co. — Zellers Inc.'s parent company — has been contemplating what to do with the brand since last year when it sold the majority of the leases for its 279 discount stores to Target Corp. for $1.83 billion.

Spokeswoman Tiffany Bourré said Zellers is "considering options" for certain locations, including "rebranding some stores" — a determination that has yet to be made.

Zellers, which offers everything from housewares to hosiery, has faced an onslaught of competition from large U.S. retailers in recent years, most notably from Walmart, which has been expanding into a one-stop destination with dry-cleaning services and a full suite of groceries. Zellers was one of the last remaining large Canadian discount retailers after the Woolco, BiWay and Bargain Harold's brands became extinct years ago. The company said it operates 64 stores that were not acquired by Target, or were already slated for closure.

Zellers has been a key part of the Hudson Bay portfolio since 1978, emerging as the company's discount retail subsidiary by offering clothing and household items at lower price points. It remained in the HBC fold as the company refocused its efforts on its core retail business in the 1980s and 1990s.

In recent years the company has made efforts to revitalize its Bay stores, hiring former Holt Renfrew executive Bonnie Brooks as chief executive officer, introducing high-end boutique spaces in its Toronto flagship store, and securing the rights to produce uniforms and merchandise for Canada's Olympic athletes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local impact

Target Corp. acquired the leases for all four Zellers properties in London last year, Bourré said.

- Target has announced plans to open stores at Masonville and Westmount malls in the spring. The company has since sold its lease for the Northland mall site to Walmart. Target has not released details on its plans for the Southside Shopping Centre lease.

Consumer training camp?

Apple worker Tiffany White leads Camp Apple at an Apple store in Palo Alto, Calif., Wednesday. At the three-day camp, students ages 8 to 12 learn how to shoot their own footage, create an original song in GarageBand on an iPad, and put it all together in iMovie on a Mac.

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google

Kansas City Internet going warp speed

Google Inc. revealed Thursday what it will charge for its long-awaited, ultra-fast "gigabit" Internet service in Kansas City, about 100 times faster than a basic cable modem: $70 US per month. The service is intended as a showcase for what's technically possible. Bypassing the local cable and phone companies, Google has spent months and an unknown amount of money pulling its own optical fibre through the two-state Kansas City region.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 99.05¢ US (+0.55¢)

TSX 11,639.75 (+147.24)

OIL $89.39 US (+42¢)

GOLD $1,615.10 US (+$7)

Natural gas: $3.1050 US (+3.5¢)
Dow Jones: 12,887.93 (+211.88)

Ribfest | TOP TEN RIB TEAMS | 50 RESTAURANTS | BIG RIDES | $5 DRINKS | 250 BOOTHS | 5 STAGES | 75 BANDS | FIVE DAYS | VICTORIA PARK AUGUST 2-6

26th Annual

Ribfest

TOP TEN RIB TEAMS

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250 EXHIBITS

5 STAGES 75 BANDS

FIVE DAYS

VICTORIA PARK - DOWNTOWN LONDON

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FIVE DAYS
VICTORIA PARK
AUGUST 2-6

REALITY BITES FOR SULLIED SNOW WHITE

THE LIST
Paul Sullivan
Metro

1 **Olympic insecurity.** There's about one soldier for every athlete ready to take part in the 2012 London Games. At least I think they're ready. On a visit to London, U.S. presidential candidate Mitt Romney, who organized the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics, said the last-minute security issues in London were "disturbing." That prompted U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron to retort that anybody can organize the Olympic Games "in the middle of nowhere." England 1, Tea Party 0.

2 **Love bites.** Robert Pattinson is "heartbroken and angry" (says a source) and has moved out of the Beverly Hills home he shared with Kristen Stewart, his Twilight co-star, after she was caught biting someone else's neck. The other party was not a werewolf, but the director of Stewart's latest movie Snow White and the Huntsman — an entirely different kind of predator.

3 **Speaking of bats.** Christian Bale, whose Batman series may have inspired James Holmes to allegedly murder a dozen innocent moviegoers, shows he, at least, understands the difference between reality and illusion by turning up at the bedsides of the survivors and attending memorial services for the dead. Holmes, meanwhile, ain't even close: He reportedly keeps asking his jailer how the movie ends. With any luck, he'll spend eternity in hell still wondering.

4 **The war between Alberta and B.C.** The nation is mesmerized as the two western-most premiers duke it out over royalties and risk regarding the yet-to-be-approved Enbridge pipeline carrying Alberta oilsands oil across B.C. to port for Asian customers. B.C.'s Christy Clark wants less risk and more royalties; Alberta's Alison Redford says: Bite me! Are we beginning to sense a theme here?

5 **In other CO_2 news,** Greenland melts. As in 97 per cent of the ice sheet covering the island. The last time than happened was 1889. On May 29, the temperature at the southern weather station reached 24.8 C, a record. If the whole ice cap melts, sea levels will rise by seven metres. But not to worry, global warming's some kind of elaborate hoax. Easy to say, unless you live on the coast.

6 **In other H_2O news.** Lucky Larry, the 17-pound lobster, has been saved. After surviving anywhere between 70 and 100 years, Lucky Larry was unlucky enough to end up on the menu at a restaurant in Connecticut, drawing local gawkers who wanted to laugh and point before his Last Bath. But "good lobsterian" Don MacKenzie saved Larry and set him free, invoking the sanity claws.

7 **They call the judge "Mariah."** Mariah Carey replaces Jennifer Lopez as a judge on American Idol, which is only fitting, as she's the one responsible for the legions of competing copycat divas who pretend to play the microphone like a trumpet and lard their vocals with overblown, unnecessary runs and trills. Mother Carey's chickens come home to roost.

8 **Speaking of birds.** It's hard to believe, but Twitter went down Thursday right in the middle of all the above exciting stuff, probably because everyone was tweeting about Robert and Kristen's vampire games. For about an hour, no birds sang. And then, of course, the most popular topic was #WhenTwitterWasDown … after it went up.

9 **BieberWatch.** Justin, as part of his maturity project, has gotten a new tattoo following the release of his latest album, Believe. Why am I thinking about that great line from Finding Nemo? "I think I just inked myself." Well, what else could he do? Twitter was down.

Planet Earth as a canvas

NASA'S GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER/USGS

Earth photography

Photo of island and luminous plankton wins public vote

In this amazing island-and-sea photograph, you can almost see Van Gogh's famous painting The Starry Night. The image of greenish phytoplankton swirling around Gotland, a Swedish island in the Baltic Sea, was voted by the public as the top image from NASA's Earth as Art collection. The collection is based on more than 40 years' worth of images from the space agency's Earth-observation satellites.

Since 1972, NASA's Landsat earth-observing program has become a vital reference worldwide for understanding scientific issues related to land use and natural resources.

Beyond the scientific information they supply, some Landsat images are simply striking to look at, presenting spectacular views of mountains, valleys and islands as well as forests, grasslands and agricultural patterns.

ANTHONY JOHNSTON/METRO

Q & A

'Great combination of colours and patterns'

In your opinion, what made this particular photo a winning one?
This image of Gotland — acquired in July 2005 — was a particularly popular one thanks to its great combination of colours and patterns.

What is also noteworthy — and especially so for biologists — concerns the blooms of phytoplankton. These microscopic organisms contain a green chlorophyll pigment they use to generate nutrients with the help of sunlight. But in this area near Gotland, the clutters of phytoplankton are very unusual.

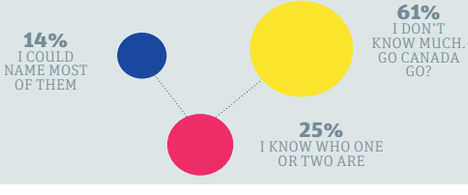
RONALD BECK
Public information specialist at Landsat

Vincent van Gogh's The Starry Night is one of the Dutch artist's most iconic and globally recognizable works. GOOGLE ART PROJECT

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

How much do you know about Canada's Olympians heading into the Games?



Twitter

@vsmills: It takes a certain kind of person to willingly swim in Thames River and I'm looking at 3 of them now. #Ldnont

@LeGiff: So today I am going to get the #Rippers logo tattooed on my chest so that they will be close to my heart forever. #RIPrippers

@ShannonKarleen: Ugh, eye twitch! So annoying and distracting!

@BantingHouse: Thanks for the follow @jac_mi!

@outtamywaystool: Rock the park tonight. Which means my evening nap will be interrupted by hair metal.

@liveterkort: This car issue is delaying my trip back to #LdnOnt #unimpressed

metro
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VICTORIA PARK
AUGUST 2-6

The Watch shifts from police procedural to comedy to alien invasion. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Scripts that go clunk in the night

The Watch. Three of the funniest guys around can't even save this lacklustre comedy

Richard: Mark, The Watch mixes and matches an alien invasion story with a police procedural story and comedy in the same way that it throws together its three over the title stars, Stiller, Hill and Vaughn. That is to say, sloppily. It hopes to win audiences by giving them a little of everything, but feels like the cinematic equivalent of an unmade bed. Luckily newcomer (to us anyway) Richard Ayoade spices things up.

Mark: Richard, I didn't even like this movie when it was called Ghostbusters. And that movie had an iconic cast and was very much of its moment. But this flick feels so ripped off that even the colour of the slime is the same. Yes, Ayoade is good, and I hope to see him in a better movie soon. And Vince Vaughan can't help but be funny. But you're right about the sloppiness of the whole enterprise. Every scene and every character has a different tone, resulting in a tone-deaf comedy. I don't think I laughed once.

RC: I liked this more than you think. I laughed, but the giggles didn't come as the result of a well-crafted script or an intelligent diction. They come because this crew of veterans knows how to suck a laugh out of almost anything. Vaughn made me laugh here and there, but his fast-talking act wore thin for me a long time ago. Ditto Stiller and Hill and their trademarks. I was happy to have a breath of fresh air in the form of Ayoade, who can make a throwaway line like, "That was stressful," the funniest gag in the film.

MB: Yes, we're dealing with comedy pros here. The acting isn't the problem. The script — even the idea of the script — is. This wheezy contraption felt completely fake, especially at the end when the movie turns violent. I mean, come on, is anyone in the theatre supposed to be scared of the aliens? Or care about the "heroes?" This is Hollywood committee writing at its worst, Richard, and you know it!

RC: I agree, but if you go in like I did, with low to no expectations, you'll laugh occasionally. Not loudly, and not often, but you'll laugh. If it is alien comedy that you're after, however, you may be better off renting Paul, starring Nick Frost, Simon Pegg and a foul mouthed ET.

MB: Or Galaxy Quest or even Earth Girls are Easy. I think if this had been a pure comedy, or even a pure thriller, I might have enjoyed it, but it's a hybrid in which the two genres cancel each other out. At least Ghostbusters knew it was silly.

Synopsis

When a security guard is found skinned alive at a Costco, the store's manager Evan (Ben Stiller) vows to find his employee's killer. To get the job done he starts a Neighborhood Watch with three misfit volunteers from the community. Bob (Vince Vaughn) is a manchild with a wild child daughter. Franklin (Jonah Hill) is a psycho cop wannabe and Jamarkus (Richard Ayoade) joined because he hopes it will help him meet women. They discover the killer may not be of this planet!

- Richard: ●●○○○
- Mark: ●○○○○

SCENE2

On the web

Big names from Tom Hanks to Jerry Seinfeld enter digital fray

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AUGUST 2-6

Drama/Music

Step Up Revolution

Director. Scott Speer

Stars. Ryan Guzman, Kathryn McCormick

●●○○○

This installment of the franchise is now transported to Miami and introduces an entirely new cast. A local dance crew stages spontaneous routines on the city's streets in the hopes of winning a viral video challenge. But when a developer threatens to tear down their neighbourhood, the tycoon's own daughter shows her new friends that their fancy footwork can be used to save their area from destruction. Once again, the dance sequences are spectacular. But can't we please get a movie that offers more than your average music video?

IAN GORMELY

Drama

The Woman in the 5th

Director. Pawel Pawlikowski

Stars. Ethan Hawke, Kristin Scott Thomas

●●○○○

For a thriller, The Woman in the 5th doesn't deliver as much frenzy as it does frustration. Ethan Hawke plays an American writer who returns to Paris to reunite with his estranged daughter and ends up in a tryst with a cryptic widow. While the engaging performances enchant, the drama leaves its murky ends loose and the wandering storyline will rattle fans looking for a conventional mystery.

STEVE GOW

Drama

Your Sister's Sister

Director. Colin Treverrow

Stars. Emily Blunt, Mark Duplass

●●●●○

Filmmaker Lynn Shelton's follow-up to her absurdly engaging HUMPDAY is a more subdued affair, but much like its predecessor, still driven by character behaviours. Mark Duplass stars as Jack, an emotionally beaten man who is given his best friend Iris' (Emily Blunt) isolated cottage to get himself together. Iris' sister Hannah (Rosmarie DeWitt) is also there.

CHRIS ALEXANDER

Luke Skywalker joins the dark side

Sushi Girl. Sadistic thief role allowed Mark Hamill to play the bad guy – and he enjoyed every minute

Mark Hamill. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Star Wars could have been a lot different if Mark Hamill had picked his role.

"I remember reading Star Wars and thinking, boy, I wish I could be playing Darth Vader — that's the part,' " Hamill said.

There was never any question of that, however, and he went on to become a pop culture icon as plucky Luke Skywalker, the intrepid space adventurer who helps derail the evil Vader's plans for galactic domination in three Star Wars films.

Hamill's latest role is a galaxy away from the earnest Skywalker. In Sushi Girl, a crime noir flick having its international premiere at Montreal's Fantasia Film Festival, he plays Crow, a sadistic robber who inflicts pain with all the nonchalance of a chat between Skywalker and his robot pal R2D2.

"Every actor wants to push the envelope and explore the extremes on both sides," Hamill said, calling Skywalker "an icon of virtue."

But playing villains has proven lucrative for him too, with one of the most notable being his over-the-top vocal interpretation of The Joker in the animated Batman TV series and video games.

"It was a great kick to be cast as The Joker because he's an icon 180 degrees away from Luke," Hamill said, agreeing it's often more enjoyable to play the villain than the hero.

"You're messing up the chance for good to succeed and that's a lot of fun."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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– Andrew J. Chatham-Kent Police Constable

Medical Laboratory Assistant/Technician

After investigating several schools, I felt that Westervelt was the best choice for me. The instructors were knowledgeable, supportive and among the best I have experienced in my years of study. Since graduating from Westervelt, I have obtained full-time employment as a QC Analytical Technician.

– Umbreen A., Medical Laboratory Assistant Technician

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My teachers all successfully prepared me to be able to pass my OSCE and MCQ exams with the CMTO (College of Massage Therapists). The teachers at Westervelt made me realize I was definitely choosing the career I had always wanted. My teachers were all very approachable, understanding and helpful in all areas of the course. I was a successful second careers student! Thanks to all of my teachers.

– Jennifer B. Registered Massage Therapist

I graduated on the last Friday in February and began work the following Monday. I have, in just over a year, become a valued asset to the company and have received several promotions. The knowledge I gained at Westervelt gave me a huge head start.

– Chris C. Business Accounting

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I am a Hardware/Software Specialist. I have the utmost respect for the staff and everything associated with the school. I don't think I could have earned this opportunity without the help of all the people at Westervelt. I have learned so much from the IT program. I would recommend it to anyone if they enjoy computers.

– Will B. IT Technician

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London

Mustang Drive-In -London
2551 Wilton Grove Rd., 519-644-1160

The Dark Knight Rises (PG) Fri-Thu 9:15
Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Fri-Thu 9:20
Magic Mike (14A) Fri-Thu 12:05
Step Up Revolution (PG) Fri-Thu 11

Hyland Cinema
240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG) Fri 1-5:20 Sat 1-7:05 Sun 1-5 Mon 2:45-7:05 Tue 1-7 Wed 1-7:05 Thu 1-5
To Rome With Love (PG) Fri 3:15 Sat 5 Sun 9 Mon 5 Tue 9:15 Wed 5 Thu 9
The Woman in the Fifth (STC) Fri 7:35 Sat 9:20 Sun 3:15 Mon 9:20 Tue-Wed 3:15 Thu 7:15
Your Sister's Sister (18A) Fri 9:15 Sat 3:15 Sun 7:15 Mon 1 Tue 5 Wed 9:20 Thu 3:15

Rainbow Cinemas London
355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073

The Amazing Spider-Man (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4-7-9:40
Brave (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:35-7:10-9:25
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-1:15-3:55-4:30-7:30-9
Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:20-7:15-9:20
Ted (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-7:20-9:45
The Watch (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:15-7:05-9:35

Western Film
Room 340, UCC Building

Prometheus (14A) Fri-Thu 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas
983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529

The Amazing Spider-Man (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:30-6:30-9:40
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12-12:45-3-3:45-4:20-7:30-8-9 Mon-Thu 12-12:45-3-3:45-4:20-7:30-8-9
Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 3:40-6:40-9:20
Magic Mike (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7
Savages (18A) Fri-Thu 10
Step Up Revolution (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50
Step Up Revolution 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 4-6:50-9:30
The Watch (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7:10-9:50

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas
755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796

The African Queen (PG) Sun 1
The Amazing Spider-Man (PG) Fri-Sun 1 Mon 12:45 Tue 1 Wed-Thu 12:45
The Amazing Spider-Man 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:10-7:20-10:30 Mon 3:55-7:05-10:15 Tue 4:10-7:20-10:30 Wed-Thu 3:55-7:05-10:15
André Rieu's 25th Anniversary Hometown Concert (STC) Sat 12:45
Brave (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15 Mon 12:10 Tue 12:15 Wed-Thu 12:10
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:45-2:15-2:45-3:25-5:55-6:35-7:05-9:35-10:15-10:45 No Passes Mon 11:45-2:15-2:40-3:20-5:55-6:25-6:55-9:35-10-10:30 No Passes Tue 11:45-2:15-2:45-3:25-5:55-6:35-7:05-9:35-10:15-10:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 11:45-2:15-2:40-3:20-5:55-6:25-6:55-9:35-10-10:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:45-3:30-6:30-7-10-10:30
Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05 Mon 12 Tue 12:05 Wed-Thu 12
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 2:35-4:55-7:15-9:40
Step Up Revolution 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon 11:55-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50 Tue 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Wed-Thu 11:55-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50
Ted (14A) Fri 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:40 Sat 2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 Sun 5:20-8-10:40 Mon 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:25 Tue 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:40 Wed 5:15-7:50-10:25 Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:25
Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Watch (14A) No Passes Fri 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:20 No Passes Sat 12:05-3:05-5:30-8-10:30 No Passes Sun 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:20 No Passes Mon 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 No Passes Tue 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 No Passes Fri-Sun 1-4-7:30-10:55 No Passes Mon 1-4-7:30-10:50 No Passes Tue 1-4-7:30-10:55 No Passes Wed-Thu 1-4-7:30-10:50

SilverCity London
1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125

The Amazing Spider-Man (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 4:40-7:50-11
André Rieu's 25th Anniversary Hometown Concert (STC) Sat 12:45
Brave (PG) Fri 12:10-3-5:30-7:55-10:10 Sat 3:15-5:30-7:55-10:10 Sun-Tue 12:10-3-5:30-7:55-10:10 Wed 12:10-3-5:15-10:10 Thu 12:10-3-5:30-7:55-10:10
Curious George (G) Sat 11
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) No Passes Fri 12:45-2:05-3:10-4:35-5:50-6:50-8:15-9:30-10:30 No Passes Sat 11:30-12:45-2:05-3:10-4:35-5:50-6:50-8:15-9:30-10:30 No Passes Sun-Tue 12:45-2:05-3:10-4:35-5:50-6:50-8:15-9:30-10:30 No Passes Wed 12:45-2:05-3:20-4:35-5:50-6:50-8:15-9:30-10:30 No Passes Thu 12:45-2:05-3:10-4:35-5:50-6:50-8:15-9:30-10:30
The Dark Knight Rises: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:40-7:20-11
Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:50-5:10
Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (PG) Fri 12-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40 Sat 11:40-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40 Sun 12-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40 Mon 12:05-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40 Tue 12-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40 Wed-Thu 12:05-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40
Magic Mike (14A) Fri 12-2:30-5-7:45-10:35 Sat 11:50-2:30-5-7:45-10:35 Sun-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:45-10:35
Savages (18A) Fri-Sun 7:30-10:45 Mon 10:45 Tue-Thu 7:30-10:45
Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan (STC) Mon 7:30
Step Up Revolution 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:50-5:25-8-10:40
Ted (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3-5:40-8:10-10:55
The Watch (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:20-5:45-8:20-10:50
The Who - Quadrophenia: The Complete Story (STC) Wed 7:30

The Dark Knight Rises PROVIDED

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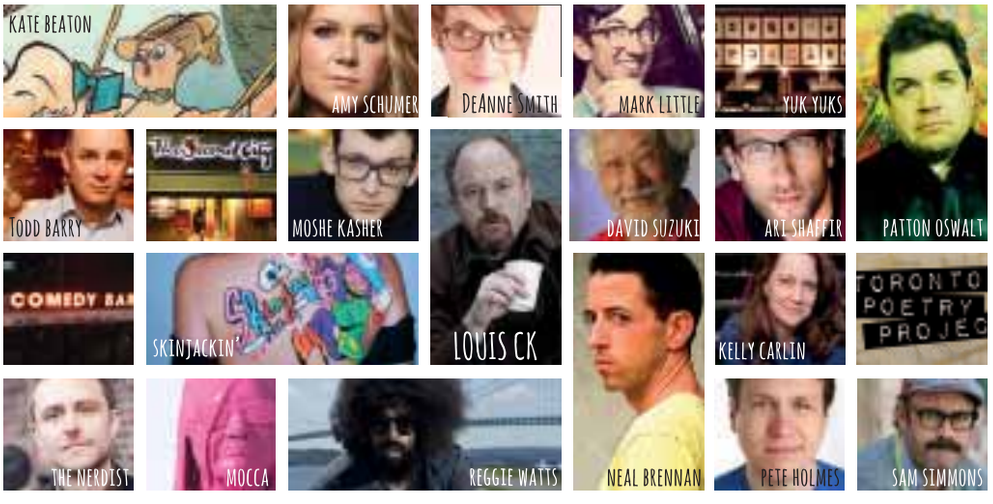

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Katherine Jackson. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Katherine's lawyer vows to get her reinstated as guardian

The Jackson family's recent dispute seems to be at least partially resolved, as Katherine Jackson has been reunited with her grandchildren.

"Grandma's here!" Paris Jackson, her 14-year-old granddaughter, posted to Twitter.

Katherine, who is legal guardian for Paris and her two brothers — children of the late Michael Jackson — was reported missing after she was spirited away to Arizona to rest without her grandchildren being notified. The kids' cousin, TJ Jackson, was granted temporary custody this week, but now that Katherine is back she intends to regain custody, according to Hollyscoop.

"This is creating some havoc that we need to nip in the bud," her lawyer, Perry Sanders, says.

"I intend to get her immediately reinstated as the guardian."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Pattinson relationship heading to its Twilight

THE WORD
Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca

Not surprisingly, Robert Pattinson has packed up and left the Los Angeles home he shared with Kristen Stewart. This comes after Us Weekly published photos of his girlfriend and Twilight co-star in the midst of a not-so-discreet fling with director Rupert Sanders.

Although Stewart issued a weepy public appeal for forgiveness, it appears Pattinson isn't having any of it — maybe because, like Us Weekly, he noticed that the L.A. Dodgers hat she was wearing in the photos looks suspiciously similar to one he's frequently spotted in.

"I'm not sure they'll be able to recover from this," a source associated with Twilight tells People magazine, adding that Pattinson isn't in contact with Stewart and "is heartbroken and angry."

Tell us, source, how does Kristen feel?

"Kristen really loves Rob more than anything," they continue.

"He's all that matters to her right now."

There's plenty more to come from this: Stewart is reportedly preparing to personally apologize to Sanders' wife, and the final Twilight circus doesn't hit theatres until November.

In other words: If we have to feel like a sleazy Cheaters B-team crew, so do you, so try to sit back and enjoy the ride.

Jeremy Renner

Renner not prepared for what popped up

Jeremy Renner doesn't have the best luck with flights, he tells Jimmy Kimmel during an interview.

"A lot of times when I'm on the plane, I have to sleep. And I'm not a good sleeper on the plane," the Bourne Legacy star explains. "I had to fly from London to Los Angeles for dinner, and then get right back on a plane to London. ... Somebody gave me some pills, like Ambien. So I took a little sleeping pill, popped it and realized nothing's happening — but something else was happening!"

Renner soon realized he had accidentally taken a Viagra pill instead.

"Not only did I not sleep the entire flight, but there was ... 'camping' ... happening," he says. "The flight attendants were sort of in on the joke. They were like, 'Can we get you anything, Mr. Renner?'"

Twitter

@kirstiealley
Good Morning!!!! Kayaking today???! This should be good..Oh Lawd

@IMKristenBell
i want 2 live in a nation where we do more than pay attn 2 the issue of the moment, where we follow through.

@russellcrowe
40.40 km bike ride Reykjavik to Hafnarfjodur via coast to Laugar World Class, gym [10x60 kg bench,10x70 kg seated Jammer,1m prone hold] x 5

@AlbertBrooks
Just arrived in Beijing for the Olympics. These buildings do not look like they're ready for Friday.

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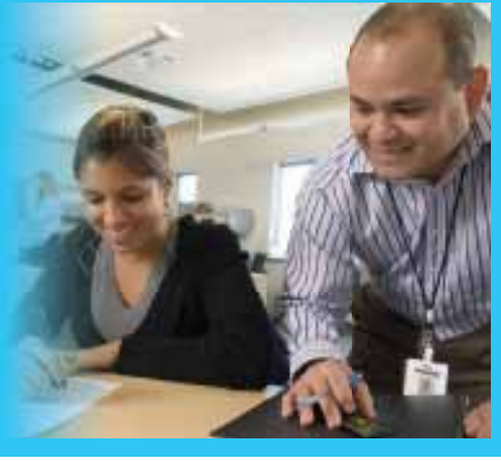


LIFE 3

Keeping things cool

Cherry Cola Shaved Ice

- Four 12-oz cans cola soda (6 cans are needed if making granita)
- 12-oz bag frozen cherries, thawed
- Chopped maraschino cherries, to garnish

1. In saucepan over high heat, bring cola to a boil. Use caution and stir regularly until the foam subsides. Boil until mix reduced to 1 cup, about 20 minutes.

2. In blender, purée cherries until smooth. Stir the cherries into the reduced cola and cook for another 2 minutes. Strain mix through fine mesh strainer, discarding solids. Allow to cool. Refrigerate until using.

3. To use with shaved ice, drizzle a bit of the syrup over a cone or bowl of ice, then garnish with chopped maraschino cherries.

Granita option: Stir 2 more 12-oz cans of cola into the entire batch of cooled syrup. Pour into a 9-by-13-inch pan and freeze. Every 20 minutes, use a fork to scrape and stir the mixture until it is firm with small ice crystals. Spoon into dishes and garnish with chopped cherries.

Coconut Lime Shaved Ice

- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/3 cup lime juice
- Zest of 2 limes
- Cream of coconut, to drizzle

1. In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine the sugar, water, lime juice and lime zest. Heat, stirring until the sugar dissolves, about 3 to 4 minutes. Remove from the heat and allow the mixture to cool completely. Refrigerate until ready to use.

2. To use with shaved ice, drizzle a bit of the syrup over a cone or bowl of ice, then drizzle cream of coconut over the top.

Granita option: Stir another 1 1/2 cups of water and 1/2 cup lime juice into the entire batch of chilled syrup. Pour the mixture into a 9-by-13-inch pan and freeze. Every 20 minutes, use a fork to scrape and stir the mixture until it is firm with small ice crystals. Gently fold and swirl 1/2 cup cream of coconut into the mixture, then scoop into bowls or glasses to serve.

Mocha Shaved Ice

- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup cocoa powder
- 3 tablespoons instant coffee granules
- 1 cup water
- Shaved chocolate, to garnish

1. In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine the sugar, cocoa powder, instant coffee and water. Whisk until the sugar and instant coffee dissolve. Remove from the heat and strain the mixture through a fine mesh strainer. Allow to cool completely. Refrigerate until ready to use.

2. To use with shaved ice, stir the syrup then drizzle a bit over a cone or bowl of ice, then garnish with shaved chocolate.

Granita option: Stir another 2 1/2 cups of water into entire batch of cooled syrup. Pour into a 9-by-13-inch pan and freeze. Every 20 minutes, use a fork to scrape and stir the mixture until it is firm with small ice crystals. Spoon into dishes and garnish with shaved chocolate.

Liquid Assets

London beer and Olympic watching

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
peterrockwell@eastlink.ca

Unless they make chug-a-lugging an Olympic sport, the only torch I'll ever carry is for that brunette I had the hots for in university.

I do love London and can't think of a better place to watch our athletes compete — on TV from the comfort of one of the city's old school pubs.

They take drinking beer very seriously in England, with a pint of almost every variety of ale tracing its roots back to somewhere in the United Kingdom.

While the taps advertising huge multinational producers dominate modern London's liquor landscape, you can still get a glass of local brew at the public houses owned by individual breweries.

Fuller's is the city's oldest, having pumped out suds in its Chiswick brewery since 1845. Its soft, smooth and creamy London Pride Ale (500 ml, $2.80 - $3.44) is, well, the pride of London. I'm partial to its Organic Honey Dew Ale (500 ml, $3.35 - $3.95), an all-natural, lightly malty creation with a subtle bitterness and just a touch of bee juice.

Go Team Canada!

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

On the Web

Canadian scientists developing colourful purple wheat to boost health, economy

NEED A RIDE?
Read metro drive every Wednesday.

Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill? Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.

MIX OF SIX
Mila Petkovic
london@metronews.ca

Fricot fusion

Musician Dominique Fricot from Vancouver will be at the London Music Club (470 Colborne St.) on July 27 to perform along with Ciseaux from Victoria. Fricot's sound is a fusion of rock, soul, folk and jazz, and has been compared to Ray Lamontagne and Bon Iver. His latest single, Haunted By Love, is being played every day on one of Vancouver's biggest commercial radio stations, 100.5 The Peak. The cover is $8 and the performance starts at 9 p.m.

Four songs, one great Saturday

Michael Schatte and His Band return to the Aeolian Hall (795 Dundas St.) on July 28 for the official release of his new EP, Four Songs, One Apocalypse. The Toronto-based guitarist/singer/songwriter delivers an eclectic, high-energy show of bluesy-folk sounds. The purchase of a ticket ($20 advance, $23 at the door) entitles the ticket holder to a free copy of the new EP. Tickets can be bought online or in person at the Aeolian Hall box office.

Vegan lemon heaven

Sweet Lemon Bakery (82 York St. or 900 King St. at Western Fair Farmers' Market on Saturdays) offers all-natural desserts with 100 per cent vegan ingredients. It provides classic and unique cookies, cakes, cupcakes and squares without the use of animal products, refined sugar or gluten. Instead, the bakery uses organic cane sugars, agave, rice and bean flours to make their tasty treats. To place an order, call 519-432-5447.

Tragedy and death — as art

Tragic Predilection — A Journey in the Macabre opens at the Arts Project (203 Dundas St.) on July 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. This exhibition will feature the unconventional art of Will Graham and Sue Laking, who are both professional tattoo artists as well as visual artists. Their work explores a fascination with tragedy and death. The reception will feature a live performance by Violence Therapy. Admission is free.

Midsummer nights (and days)

The three-day Rosedale Midsummer Art Show July 27 to 29 brings together local artists and musicians in honour of Salt Haven, a wildlife rehabilitation centre close to London. If you have ever found a baby bird or a hurt deer by the road, Salt Haven is the place to take them! The event is pet friendly and includes free appetizers. The show, located at 1-563 Adelaide St. North (entrance off Rosedale) is open Friday 5 to 9 p.m., Saturday noon to 9 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. There is a suggested donation of $2 at the door.

Exploring London's past

Museum London (421 Ridout St. North) is paying tribute to the Embassy Cultural House (1983 to 1990), an art hotspot created by prominent London artists Jamelie Hassan, Rob Benner and jazz musician Eric Stach. Its role in the local arts scene and unique programming will be discussed on an exhibition tour from 1 to 2 p.m. Then join artist Ron Benner from 2:30 to 4 p.m. for a corn roast amidst his garden installation, As the Crow Flies, while musician Frank Ridsdale entertains.

SPORTS 4

Edwin Encarnacion hits a three-run home run against the Oakland Athletics Thursday at Rogers Centre in Toronto. BRAD WHITE/GETTY IMAGES

Jays dodge sweep with two blasts and a bunt

MLB. Toronto bounces back from Wednesday's 16-0 drubbing by Athletics

Thursday's game

10	4
Blue Jays	Athletics

A pair of big blasts and a bunt helped the Toronto Blue Jays avoid a sweep at the hands of the surging Oakland Athletics.

Edwin Encarnacion hit a three-run homer in the fourth and Kelly Johnson hit a solo shot in the seventh as the Blue Jays beat Oakland 10-4 Thursday, stopping the Athletics' winning streak at seven games.

But in between the homers there was a bunt in the sixth by Travis Snider on a safety squeeze with runners at second and third that scored two runs when Oakland left-hander Tommy Milone lost control on his throw to first.

The throw hit Snider and allowed a second run to score on the play to give the Blue Jays a 5-4 lead, and they never looked back.

"In that spot we're playing for a run just to tie things up," Blue Jays manager John Farrell said. "Fortunately they mishandled the ball and we end up scoring two runs."

Milone said he rushed the throw.

"When he first squared I thought maybe I would have a play at home but then I kind of saw the runner out of the corner of my eye and he looked like he was going to be safe anyway," Milone said.

The Blue Jays bounced back from a 16-0 drubbing by the A's on Wednesday.

"You can quickly turn the page on a tough day, that's the beauty of this game," Farrell said.

The Blue Jays scored four runs in the eighth on a double by Snider, a sacrifice fly by Yan Gomes, and a double by Johnson against Sean Doolittle and a double by Jeff Mathis against Evan Scribner.

"(Toronto) executed well and got some big hits down the stretch," A's manager Bob Melvin said. "Any time you take two out of three on the road you have to consider it somewhat of a success."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Just a good come-from-behind win today, particularly with the way things finished up last night."

Blue Jays manager John Farrell

NHL

Owners' turn to listen at talks

A day after tabling the remaining elements of its opening contract offer, it was the NHL's turn to listen.

The NHL Players' Association made a number of presentations to owners Thursday, including ones addressing pensions, training camp and ice conditions.

Mathieu Schneider, special assistant to NHLPA executive director Don Fehr, says the two sides were involved in collective discussion and also broke into smaller groups.

"I think we had a lot of good, open discussion and it was certainly one of the days where we had a lot of player involvement and to me that's the most important thing," said Schneider.

He adds that benefits have not been updated since the 1990s, while training camp issues include the schedule, player testing and the amount of pre-season games in which veterans would be expected to participate. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Hurricanes sign sniper Semin

The Carolina Hurricanes signed sniper Alexander Semin to a $7-million US, one-year deal Thursday.

Semin had 21 goals and 33 assists with the Washington Capitals last season.

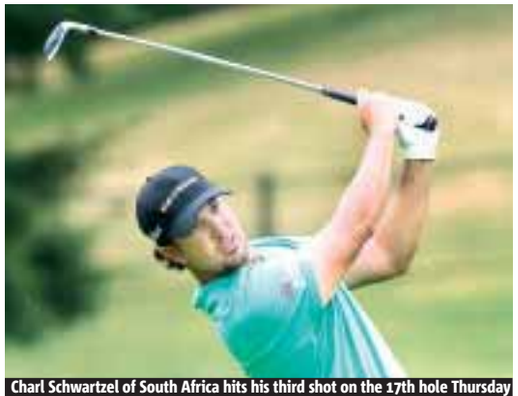
The forward also had two goals and three assists during Russia's gold-medal run at the IIHF World Hockey Championship.

"I'm very happy to be a Carolina Hurricane," said Semin in a statement. "It's a great fit for me. I look forward to playing with great players, and putting together a winning season." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mobile sports

In an off-season marked by Junior Seau's suicide and scores of lawsuits over brain injuries, the NFL on Thursday launched a comprehensive wellness program for current and retired players. Some welcomed the program as long overdue while those leading the NFL concussion litigation said the latest program lends credence to lawsuits against the league. Scan the code for the story.

Piercy fires course record at Canadian Open



Charl Schwartzel of South Africa hits his third shot on the 17th hole Thursday at Hamilton Golf and Country Club in Ancaster, Ont. HUNTER MARTIN/GETTY IMAGES

Scott Piercy sits atop the leaderboard after a soggy opening round at the RBC Canadian Open.

The American fired an 8-under 62 at Hamilton Golf and Country Club, which was softened considerably by rain that fell overnight and throughout the day.

Piercy held a one-shot lead over Greg Owen and William McGirt. Robert Garrigus was another shot back.

Adam Hadwin of Abbotsford, B.C., the low Canadian at this event the last two years, opened with a 66.

David Hearn of Brantford, Ont., posted a 68. He finished as the low Canadian when the tournament was last held at Hamilton in 2006 and has good feelings of his own on the classic H.S. Colt design.

"I enjoy playing this golf course a lot," said Hearn. "It's a beautiful golf course, and it's fun walking up that amphitheatre finish on 18. Being so close to home I got a lot of family and friends out here this week that are supporting me."

It was a tough day for Ernie Els in his return to action after winning the British Open last weekend. The South African shot a 72.

There was a crowded leaderboard midway through the first round with Charl Schwartzel, Stuart Appleby, Bo Van Pelt, Jhonattan Vegas and Troy Matteson all having opened with 65 on an overcast morning. J.J. Henry, John Huh and Josh Teater were two shots back.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inspired play

Charl Schwartzel, who shot 5-under 65 Thursday, said inspiration was easy to find.

- Not only had the South African just returned from a frustrating abdomen injury, but he was also fresh off watching his idol Ernie Els win the British Open.

Canadians bringing swagger to the pool

Swimming.
Expectations running high for team after struggles in past Games

Canada's swimmers are demanding more of themselves at the Summer Olympics.

After no medals in 2004 and one bronze in 2008, Canada's team of 33 athletes is targeting three medals and swimmers in 13 to 15 finals in London.

"It's completely different," backstroker Julia Wilkinson said Thursday. "Four years ago, it was 'We hope we can make some finals.'

"Now it's 'Who is going to be the first one to win a medal?' We've kind of come in with this swagger and we believe we can do it."

As though to punctuate her point, the Stratford, Ont., swimmer had her nails painted red, white and gold this week.

Swimming starts Saturday and runs for eight days. The open-water races, which are 10-kilometre swims, will be contested in the second week.

Canada's Julia Wilkinson practises in London on Thursday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victoria's Ryan Cochrane prevented a second straight shutout in the pool in Beijing when he won bronze on the last day of competition. Wilkinson was about to race a relay and recalls she and her teammates were stunned to tears by Cochrane's medal.

There will be no shock and awe this time, according to the head of Swimming Canada.

"I don't have a crystal ball," said chief executive officer Pierre Lafontaine. "I can tell you the Canadian kids in our lanes are going to walk pretty tall and they're going to feel they belong in that pool. They're not going to get intimidated by much." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heat wave

Organizers are attempting to address complaints over excessive heat inside the Olympic Aquatics Centre.

- Temperatures around the pool have soared over 30 C during a heat wave.

Track-and-field

Bolt says he's been slowed by bad back

Usain Bolt finally confessed there has been something wrong. It was his back.

The Olympic champion said Thursday a bad back has been causing him hamstring problems, leading to a pair of losses to training partner Yohan Blake at the Jamaican trials.

"It was a slight problem. I got that fixed and I'm ready to go," Bolt said in his first formal media appearance of the London Games, where he was given the honour of carrying his country's flag at Friday's opening ceremony.

Bolt lost to Blake twice at the recent Jamaican trials in both the 100 and his favoured 200 metres. The setbacks fuelled speculation that he was injured but haven't dampened expectation that he will retain his 100 and 200 gold medals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Usain Bolt in London on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

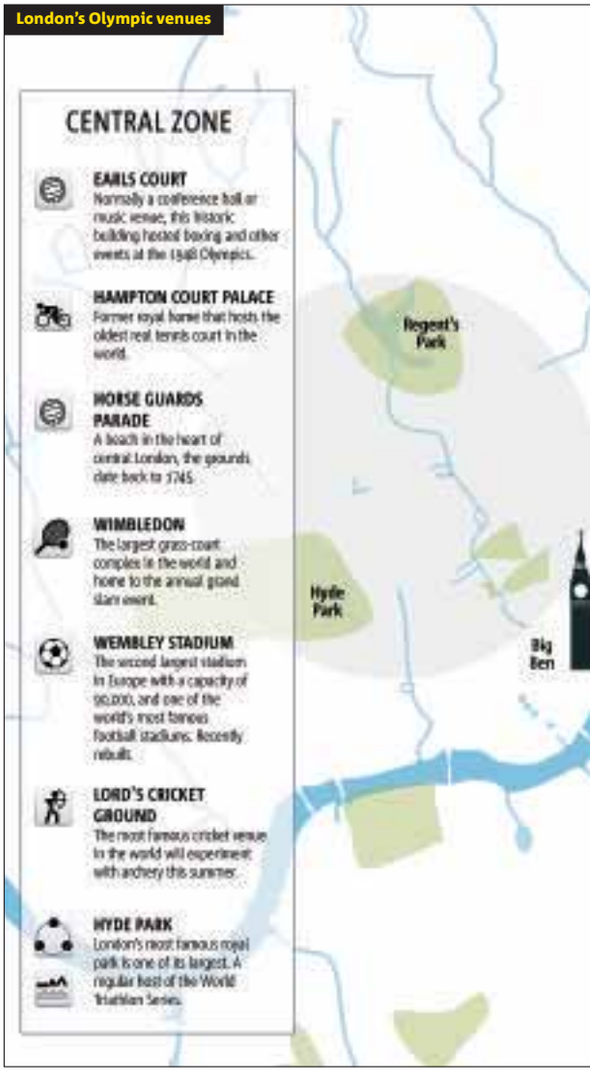
London calling: Let the Games begin

Canadian diver Jennifer Abel practises in London on Thursday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian diver Meaghan Benfeito waves during a training session on Thursday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Milos Raonic practises at Wimbledon on Thursday. The Thornhill, Ont., native will meet Japan's Tatsuma Ito in the first-round of singles play at the Olympics. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIA PRESS

Swimmers practise at the Aquatics Center at Olympic Park in London on Thursday. MARK J. TERRILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


London's Olympic venues
CENTRAL ZONE
EARLS COURT
Normally a conference hall or music venue, this historic building hosted boxing and other events at the 1948 Olympics.
HAMPTON COURT PALACE
Former royal home that hosts the oldest real tennis court in the world.
HORSE GUARDS PARADE
A beach in the heart of central London, the grounds date back to 1745.
WIMBLEDON
The largest grass-court complex in the world and home to the annual grand slam event.
WEMBLEY STADIUM
The second largest stadium in Europe with a capacity of 90,000, and one of the world's most famous football stadiums. Recently rebuilt.
LORD'S CRICKET GROUND
The most famous cricket venue in the world will experiment with archery this summer.
HYDE PARK
London's most famous royal park is one of its largest. A regular host of the World Triathlon Series.
Regent's Park
Hyde Park
Big Ben

Opening ceremony.

Performance comes before partying for many Canadian athletes

Canadian swimming star Mark Tewksbury watched the opening ceremony of the 1992 Barcelona Olympics from the cafeteria of the athletes' village.

Tewksbury, who won gold at those Games in the 100-metre backstroke, was hoping to get a leg-up on the competition by saving his legs from what he knew would be a long and physically taxing night.

"I got to the cafeteria and my main competitors were all there watching on TV too," said Tewksbury, Canada's chef de mission at the London Games. "But it was OK. I won it by six one hundredths so who knows? That might have been the six hundredths I would have lost."

Many of Canada's athletes are skipping Friday's opening ceremony, some because they're competing the next day, others because they're housed in locations that are too far a trek from the stadium.

"Some people really get lifted by it and some people think the physical drain is too much," Tewksbury said. "It's a personal choice."

"The whole point of the Olympics is performance. That's the memory you want to take for the rest of your life and you've still got the closing (ceremony). The closing is there and it's really the athletes' ceremony. It's awful to walk in an opening and regret it because it impacted your performance."

The ceremony at Olympic Stadium, directed by Danny Boyle — the Oscar-winning director of Slumdog Millionaire — are scheduled to begin at 9 p.m. local time (2 p.m. ET, CTV) and end at midnight. Most of the athletes will be able to walk back to their housing, which is adjacent to Olympic Park, but it still puts them back at the village as late as 12:30 a.m.

Triathlon athlete Simon Whitfield of Victoria will lead Canada into the ceremony as the team's flag-bearer. They are expected to leave the village at 9 p.m. and enter Olympic Stadium at 10:15.

Canada's swim team won't march in the ceremony, meaning freestyler Brent Hayden will be three-for-three in giving the Olympic opening ceremony a pass.

"It's always kind of team policy that if you're competing within the first few days you tend to skip just because you're not going to get to bed at a reasonable hour," Hayden said. "Standing up for hours on end, tiring your legs out is not necessarily the best thing to do before a competition. We all wish we could be there. We are all very patriotic and we would just love to be able to walk into the stadium with our country, waving our flags, but we're here to compete."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"It's one of those things. All my friends (ask) 'What is it like to walk in the opening ceremonies?' I don't know."

Freestyle swimmer Brent Hayden

For opening weekend Olympic coverage, go to metronews.ca/olympics.

Quick turnaround

Several thousand athletes from 204 countries will take part in the ceremony.

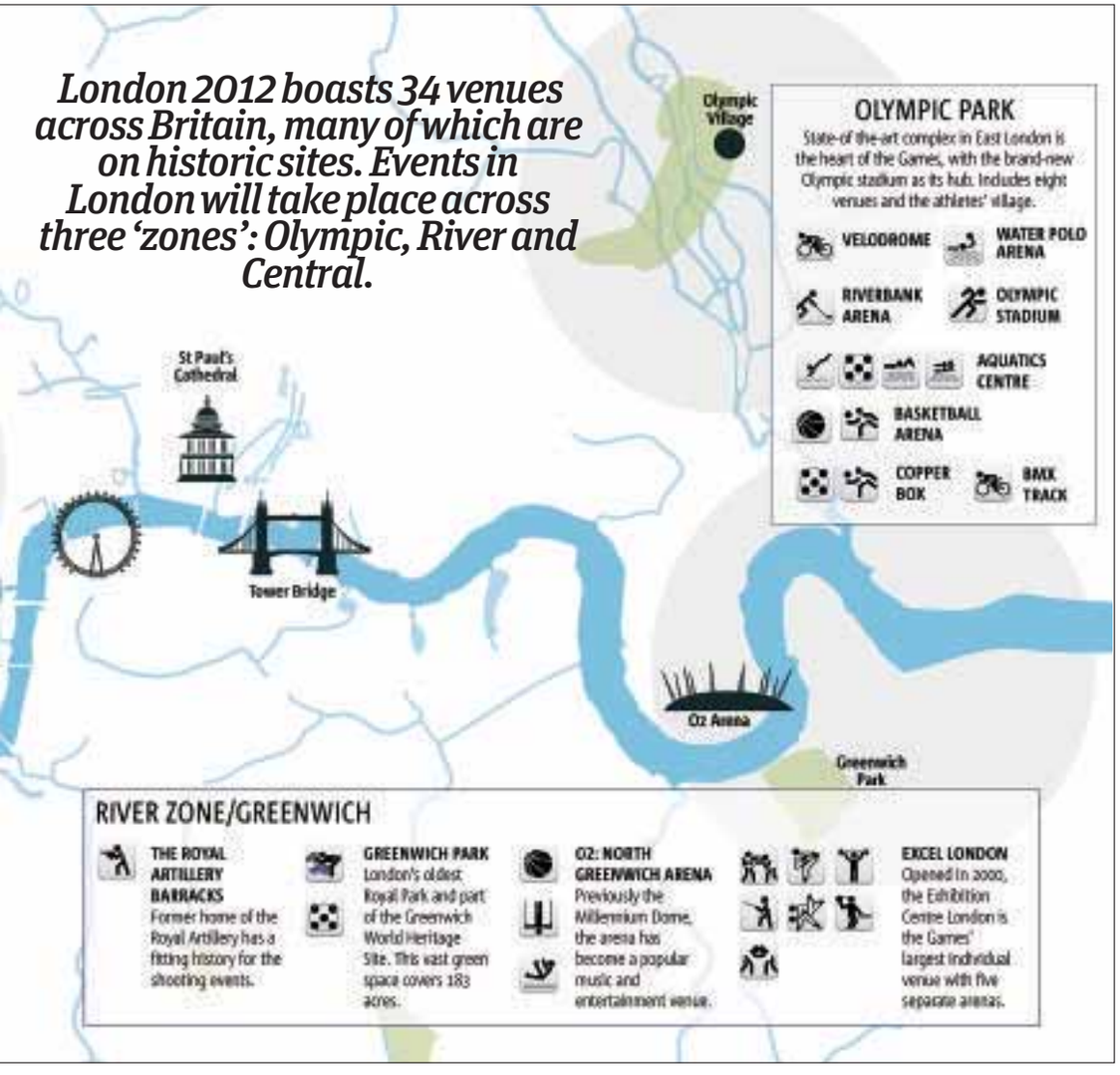
- The International Olympic Committee has pressed London organizers to make sure the show doesn't run late so that athletes can get to bed at a reasonable hour.
- There are medal events Saturday in archery, fencing, cycling, judo, shooting, swimming and weightlifting.
- Canada's rowing team will hold its own opening celebration — with the athletes all dressed in their ceremony outfits — at its hotel near the rowing venue. Rowing begins Saturday, with the first boats scheduled to push off the start line at 9:30 a.m.

Canadian flag-bearer Simon Whitfield THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dogs, sheep,

People walk outside London Olympic Stadium following opening ceremony rehearsal

London 2012 boasts 34 venues across Britain, many of which are on historic sites. Events in London will take place across three 'zones': Olympic, River and Central.


Olympic Village
OLYMPIC PARK
State-of-the-art complex in East London is the heart of the Games, with the brand-new Olympic stadium as its hub. Includes eight venues and the athletes' village.
VELODROME
WATER POLO ARENA
RIVERBANK ARENA
OLYMPIC STADIUM
AQUATICS CENTRE
BASKETBALL ARENA
COPPER BOX
BMX TRACK
St Paul's Cathedral
Tower Bridge
O2 Arena
Greenwich Park
RIVER ZONE/GREENWICH
THE ROYAL ARTILLERY BARRACKS
Former home of the Royal Artillery has a fitting history for the shooting events.
GREENWICH PARK
London's oldest Royal Park and part of the Greenwich World Heritage Site. This vast green space covers 183 acres.
O2: NORTH GREENWICH ARENA
Previously the Millennium Dome, the arena has become a popular music and entertainment venue.
EXCEL LONDON
Opened in 2000, the Exhibition Centre London is the Games' largest individual venue with five separate arenas.

Olympics by statistics

London will be the first city ever to host three Olympic Games (1908, 1948 and 2012). Here are a few impressive numbers from 2012.

302 EVENTS

35 SPORTS

204 NATIONS

Athletes
10,490

Foreign visitors
5 million

Projected ticket sales
9 million

TV spectators
4 billion

Ticket prices

Athletics	$31-$1,150
Basketball	$31-$675
BMX cycling	$31-$198
Gymnastics (artistic)	$31-$715
Soccer	$31-$293
Judo	$31-$198
Table tennis	$31-$198
Weightlifting	$31-$277

Bond: What to expect at opening ceremony

on Thursday. JEFF J MITCHELL/GETTY IMAGES

There will be sheep. A cricket game. Nurses. Plus Paul McCartney and possibly James Bond.

Officials want details of the 27-million pound ($42.3 million US) London Olympics opening ceremony to be a secret so that viewers can be surprised, but director Danny Boyle has already disclosed select details: Real farm animals on meadows, plows and maypoles, an idyllic picture of England as the "green and pleasant land," a dance number featuring nurses and a closing song by McCartney.

Reports are also suggesting a pre-recorded segment filmed inside Buckingham Palace featuring actor Daniel Craig as Bond, and a stuntman dressed as 007 who will parachute into the stadium to start the show. Later, the pastoral first act will be replaced by a grim scene re-enacting a coal-blackened, industrial Britain.

Here are four opening ceremony highlights to watch out for on Friday:

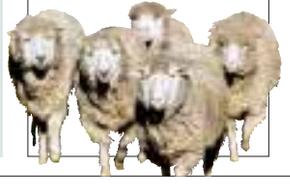
Boyle's sweeping vision

The ceremony's mastermind, filmmaker Danny Boyle, has stressed that the three-hour show will take viewers on a sweeping journey through Britain's history, one that captures the nation's identity, values and heritage, as well as its present and future. In their own ways, each of the elements represents some aspect of Englishness — though some in quirkier ways than others.

2

Un-baah-lievable opening co-stars

Seventy sheep are set to star in the ceremony, alongside 12 horses, 10 chickens and three sheep dogs. Pastoral life has long been romanticized by British writers and at every patriotic event, Britons belt out the glories of "England's pleasant pastures" to William Blake's anthem Jerusalem.



Maypoles

Each of Great Britain's four nations — England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland — will be represented by a maypole topped with their national flowers. A pagan folk symbol, the maypole is still commonly erected in British villages during May Day celebrations (as well as elsewhere in Europe) to celebrate the return of warmer weather.

4

Bond-ing Britain to the world

Fast cars, many women, martinis shaken not stirred: The super spy 007 needs little introduction. First introduced by writer Ian Fleming in 1953, the fictional British secret agent is the protagonist in the longest-running film franchise. Bond's dress, cars and expensive tastes ooze British sophistication. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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General Services

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Other Services

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- Study-related medical care & tests at no cost.

You Should Know That:
- You don't need to be having a gout attack now to participate
- The study doctor will see you monthly over the next 6-14 months
- Your medical information is kept strictly confidential, unless given your permission or except as required by law
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Pet Services

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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German Club
1 Cove Rd, London
Car Show 2pm Dance 8:30pm
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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Forget about your people skills today and do what feels right to you personally. The more you make an effort to be nice to certain individuals, the more likely it is they will take it as a sign of weakness.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Whatever has caused you to subdue your feelings and become a bit emotionally distant in recent days, you are advised not to take it too seriously. The Earth turns and everything will look different, and better, tomorrow.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Adopt a no-nonsense nature today, especially when dealing with people whose negative attitudes can drive you to despair. The more they try to convince you that something terrible is happening, the more you should laugh at them.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
There is no point getting caught in a battle of wills with someone in a position of power. They will win and you will lose, it's that simple. Let them call the shots.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Cosmic activity in your own sign encourages you to believe that you can do anything. But you will accomplish more in the long-term if you focus on one particular talent.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You know it pays to be honest but because you are uncertain how some people might react if you tell them the truth, you are reluctant to open your mouth. That's a mistake. They need your input, so speak up.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
It may annoy you that certain people don't take your ideas seriously but it's their loss. There are options open to you now — and you don't need anyone's help but your own.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Why are you so reluctant to take the advice of a friend? Most likely it's because you don't want to admit that you made the wrong choice. But what's the big deal? You're human like everyone else.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may need to force yourself to be enthusiastic about what you are expected to do, but it's an effort worth making. The better the job you do, the more likely it is you will be offered something more interesting later on.

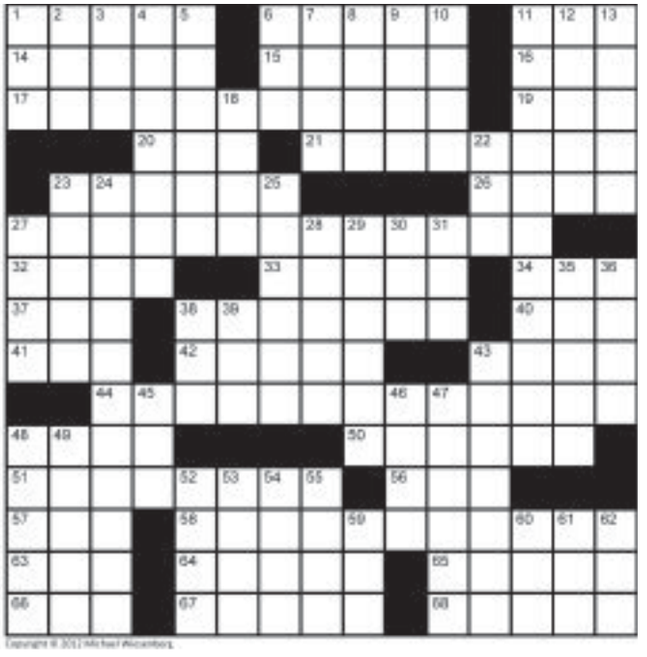
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Your confidence may not be up to its usual levels at the moment but it's not the end of the world. If you encounter the kind of opposition that makes you feel uncomfortable, just back off a bit. You've got plenty of time.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Admit it: You have bitten off more than you can chew and now you are looking around for a way out. Well, that's too bad because there isn't one. Do the best you can and live with the consequences.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will let someone know that you don't want to argue but they are hell bent on having it out with you. In which case you might as well tell them what you really think. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Sports

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Give a quick welcome
6. Ascend
11. Cable chan. for old films
14. Condescending type
15. Export from Côte d'Ivoire
16. A Gershwin
17. Regina CFL team
19. US Republicans
20. US amateur-sports gp.
21. *Le Rouge et le Noir* author
23. Bola hurler
26. Sermon's end?
27. Alberta hockey team
32. Man or Capri
33. Agitate a liquid
34. Monitor, for short
37. Able, jocularly
38. Where to find Kingston
40. Fish eggs
41. Ring around the Islands
42. "You ___ one"
43. Word on a greasy spoon's marquee
44. Former MLB team from Québec
48. ___ Jet
50. More flexible
51. Airy
56. Memo letters
57. Hawaiian tuna
58. Winnipeg team
63. Bewilderment
64. "This ___ a laughing matter"
65. ___ Boingo: Danny Elfman's former group
66. "Pipe down!"
67. "Ready, ___!"
68. Modern treaty violation

Down
1. Map abbr. before 1991
2. Part of a University of Ottawa cheerleader's request
3. Not me
4. The most popular scale of model railway in the world
5. *Odyssey* setting
6. MV/V
7. Early Beatles, affectionately
8. Rapper who acts on *Law & Order: S.V.U.*
9. Arabian mother
10. Cap'n's mate
11. Fix
12. Native of Zagreb
13. With 48-Down, Toronto team
18. German industrial center
22. Darin's love
23. Canada's ___ Bay
24. Mercury record
25. Blue ___ Cult
27. French sky
28. Scathing online criticism
29. "Because I'm worth it" brand
30. Faulkner's ___ *Lay Dying"*
31. Electrical unit that forms another unit upon reversal
35. Wind turbine part
36. Dick Tracy's Truehart
38. Ball or bass following
39. Alta. neighbor
43. Art show
45. It comes out of the ground
46. Accounting acronym
47. Earlier form of a word
48. See 13-Down
49. Set of cultural values
52. Pitcher stats
53. On the other hand
54. Dorothy's Em
55. Carroll of old *TV's Topper*
59. "Takin' Care of Business" band
60. Québec-to-Montréal dir.
61. Abbreviated linemen
62. Drunkard

Yesterday's crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

8			4		7			
6	4						3	7
	7			1		2		
	1		3	5				8
		9				4		
5				7	4		2	
		8		2			1	
3	6						9	2
			6		9			3

Yesterday's Sudoku

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